

Welcome & Prayer

Sharing of Peace

\*Opening Song – “All Creatures of Our God and King”

\*Invocation

We meet in the strong name of our God;

**We praise You, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.**

\*Confession and Forgiveness:

Father God, we stand before You, requesting Your loving kindness to rescue us from the pain and struggles of this world.

**We seek Your grace and peace.**

Almighty God, You deliver us from many forms of danger, fear, and temptations that seek to destroy our well-being.

**We thank and praise You for Your presence in our lives.**

Lord Jesus, we approach You to heal the ills of our heart, mind, and soul. You know our weaknesses and our ongoing need for Your mercy.

**We ask You humbly to forgive our sins of thought, word, and deed.**

Jesus, through Your death and resurrection, Your promises give us hope to remedy the challenges we face due to physical and mental health conditions that attempt to take our joy and sense of purpose.

**We come to You, our Redeemer, seeking the relief and victory only You can give.**

Be with us, Holy Spirit, and empower us to overcome mental health conditions, substance use, and unhealthy lifestyles that may distract us from You.

**We look to You for perseverance, strength, and resilience against powerful forces meant to do us harm.**

Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, we proclaim Your power and glory over all creation.

**Blessed be Your people, both now and forever. Amen**

\*Prayer of the Day

**Almighty and everlasting God, we thank and praise You for all the blessings You give us each and every day. Your constant love and strength help us conquer the battles in our mind and spirit that tend to overwhelm and burden us. We ask for your continued grace and peace to prevail in our lives. May we continue to seek Your deliverance from sin and Your promise of eternal life, free of pain and struggle. We ask this in the name of Jesus, our Savior. Amen.**

Song – “Beautiful Savior”

Recognition of New Members: *Brad Aronson, Greg and Vicki Egland, Mike and Charla Egland, Brighton Egland, Terry Hansen, Cole Hansen and Kayla O’Connor, Kerri Rosa, Adam Sheffer*

\*Gospel: John 3:26-36

*The Children's Message will be given on the 2nd and 4th Sundays, opposite of communion, May through September.*

Song – “King of Kings”

New Testament Lesson: Acts 17:16-31

Sermon: “Paul Offers a God-Sighting in the Gospel”

Song – “What a Beautiful Name”

\*Affirmation of Faith – The Apostles’ Creed

Prayers of the Church

Words of Institution for Communion

Holy Communion

Distribution Songs: “O Come to the Altar” / “All the Way My Savior Leads Me”

\*The Lord’s Prayer

\*Blessing

\*Closing Song – “Doxology (Old 100th)”

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

*\*Please stand if you are able*

**Gospel: John 3:26-36**

<sup>26</sup>They came to John and said to him, “Rabbi, that Man who was with you on the other side of the Jordan—the one you testified about—look, He is baptizing, and everyone is going to Him.” <sup>27</sup>To this John replied, “A person can receive only what is given them from heaven. <sup>28</sup>You yourselves can testify that I said, ‘I am not the Messiah but am sent ahead of Him.’ <sup>29</sup>The bride belongs to the bridegroom. The friend who attends the bridegroom waits and listens for him, and is full of joy when he hears the bridegroom’s voice. That joy is mine, and it is now complete. <sup>30</sup>He must become greater; I must become less. <sup>31</sup>The one who comes from above is above all; the one who is from the earth belongs to the earth, and speaks as one from the earth. The one who comes from heaven is above all. <sup>32</sup>He testifies to what He has seen and heard, but no one accepts His testimony. <sup>33</sup>Whoever has accepted it has certified that God is truthful. <sup>34</sup>For the one whom God has sent speaks the words of God, for God gives the Spirit without limit. <sup>35</sup>The Father loves the Son and has placed everything in His hands. <sup>36</sup>Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life, but whoever rejects the Son will not see life, for God’s wrath remains on them.

## New Testament Lesson: Acts 17:16-31

<sup>16</sup> While Paul was waiting for them in Athens, he was greatly distressed to see that the city was full of idols. <sup>17</sup> So he reasoned in the synagogue with both Jews and God-fearing Greeks, as well as in the marketplace day by day with those who happened to be there. <sup>18</sup> A group of Epicurean and Stoic philosophers began to debate with him. Some of them asked, "What is this babbling trying to say?" Others remarked, "He seems to be advocating foreign gods." They said this because Paul was preaching the good news about Jesus and the resurrection. <sup>19</sup> Then they took him and brought him to a meeting of the Areopagus, where they said to him, "May we know what this new teaching is that you are presenting?" <sup>20</sup> You are bringing some strange ideas to our ears, and we would like to know what they mean." <sup>21</sup> (All the Athenians and the foreigners who lived there spent their time doing nothing but talking about and listening to the latest ideas.) <sup>22</sup> Paul then stood up in the meeting of the Areopagus and said: "People of Athens! I see that in every way you are very religious. <sup>23</sup> For as I walked around and looked carefully at your objects of worship, I even found an altar with this inscription: TO AN UNKNOWN GOD. So you are ignorant of the very thing you worship—and this is what I am going to proclaim to you. <sup>24</sup> The God who made the world and everything in it is the Lord of heaven and earth and does not live in temples built by human hands. <sup>25</sup> And He is not served by human hands, as if He needed anything. Rather, He Himself gives everyone life and breath and everything else. <sup>26</sup> From one man He made all the nations, that they should inhabit the whole earth; and He marked out their appointed times in history and the boundaries of their lands. <sup>27</sup> God did this so that they would seek Him and perhaps reach out for Him and find Him, though He is not far from any one of us. <sup>28</sup> 'For in Him we live and move and have our being.' As some of your own poets have said, 'We are his offspring.' <sup>29</sup> Therefore since we are God's offspring, we should not think that the divine being is like gold or silver or stone—an image made by human design and skill. <sup>30</sup> In the past God overlooked such ignorance, but now He commands all people everywhere to repent. <sup>31</sup> For He has set a day when He will judge the world with justice by the Man He has appointed. He has given proof of this to everyone by raising Him from the dead."

*Thank you to today's Worship Partners*

**Altar Prep:** Lora Johnson, Denise Lovitt

**Communion Servers:** Greg & Ann Lear

**Counters:** Jolene Hansen, Larry Wigen

**Fellowship:** Paul & Kris Behrens

**Greeters:** Terry & Jolene Hansen

**Instrumentalists:** Leah Kreutner, Gloria McKenney, Kevin Skadeland

**Message:** Pastor Ben Unseth

**Prayer Intercessors:** Bill Neiderheiser, Justin Spieker, Joe & Rachel Simington

**Prayers of the Church:** Linda Susie

**Scripture Reader:** Al Vanderberg

**Tech Booth:** Nathan McKenney (L, V), Levi Simington (S), Lucy Simington (C)

**Vocalists:** Jim & Joan Unrau, Brittany Spieker

**Worship Leader:** Cryss Quanbeck

*Worship Partners for May 10*

**Altar Prep:** Lora Johnson, Denise Lovitt

**Children's Message:** Dodo & Emu

**Counters:** Joan Unrau, Gary Jenkins

**Fellowship:** Terry Frerichs, Marleen Thorson

**Greeters:** Bruce & Gayle Simons

**Message:** Pastor Ben Unseth

**Instrumentalists:** Youth Praise Team

**Prayers of Church:** Tim Brinkley

**Scripture Reader:** Bill Kersting

**Tech Booth:** Brett Eilts (L, S), Haley Eilts (C), Katie Eilts (V)

**Vocalists:** Youth Praise Team

**Worship Leader:** Dennis Larson

# God-Sightings



SEEING JESUS IN THE SEASON OF EASTER

## WELCOME TO FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

*Inviting all People to Faith ... Come and Worship - Go and Work*  
Pastor - Ben Unseth | Ministers - All

May 3, 2026 | Fifth Sunday of Easter

[www.flcspencer.org](http://www.flcspencer.org) | 712-580-4316

2912 Highway Blvd, P.O. Box 1322, Spencer, IA 51301

Office Hours: 9am-1pm Mondays, Tuesdays, Fridays; 9am-5pm Wednesdays  
Watch us on SMU: Monday @ 8:30 p.m. and Tuesday @ 11:00 a.m.